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say that Mr. Kelke would have performed a greater service for his profession if he had compiled a careful index to White and Tudor's cases. In this age of the digest a text-book which is not scientific in its treatment is a superfluity, and the author of this book has not made clear its justification. It has its good points—notably, very clear statements of many decisions—but how it can be of much aid to a beginner, a hope which its preface expresses, is not obvious. Mr. Kelke's method is largely that of enumeration, which is always cumbersome and unsatisfactory; and any usefulness the book might have in this country is decreased by the fact that many of the cases are discussed in relation to the Judicature Act and other English statutes. The book is also handicapped very greatly by an irritating use of abbreviations and an omission of words, unparalleled save in the other epitomes and in the conversation of the late Mr. Jingle.

FALSTAFF AND EQUITY: AN INTERPRETATION. By Charles E. Phelps. Cambridge: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1901. pp. xvi, 201.

This little volume, by the learned Baltimore judge whose name it bears, justifies its place in the lawyer's library as well as on the shelf of the student of Shakespere. It is a somewhat elaborate note on Falstaff's exclamation: "An the Prince and Poins be not two arrant cowards, there's no equity stirring" (1 Henry IV; Act II, Sc. 2), showing very clearly, as it seems to the writer, that the term equity was employed by the fat knight in the lawyer's and not the layman's sense of the term. It is a relief to find that "that old white-bearded satan" was not guilty of giving the Gadshill incident such a flat conclusion as the common interpretation of his words has fastened upon him. It is certainly easier to believe, as our author argues, that the words represent a "gag" having reference to the stir which certain notorious equity cases and the high-handed proceedings of Lord Chancellor Ellesmere were at the time creating, than that they have the merely conventional meaning, "there's no justice in the world." For the lawyer, the value of the little book lies in its spirited description of the bitter conflict between the law courts and Chancery and of the way in which justice was administered in the roaring times of Ellesmere, Coke and Popham.

That the commentary is a little too long drawn out would be a graver fault if the commentator had a less animated style; but animation of style is a doubtful virtue when it leads to such excesses as the unclassical phrases, "catch on to his [Falstaff's] curves" (p. 6), "msgacephalic deliverance" (p. 78), and "lug in by the ears some 'forged quaint conceit'" (p. 150). In doubtful taste, also, and of more than doubtful value, is the egregiously flattering introduction from the hand of the Judge's Boston friend.

COMMENTARIES ON THE LAW OF NEGLIGENCE IN ALL RELATIONS. By Seymour D. Thompson, LL. D. Indianapolis: The Bowen-Merrill Company. 1901. pp. li, 1134.